GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5891
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2000
PRODUCTION OF COTTON CROP
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cotton crop for the new season is likely to be similar to that of the previous season;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether sowing operation in most of the major cotton growing States have been delayed;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the cotton purchases have declined drastically;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and (g) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) to (d) The cotton sowing generally starts with the onset of the monsoon in the country, as almost 66% of cotton area is rain-fed. However, in the irrigated areas in Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan, sowing starts from the first week of May except insome areas where desi cotton is sown from mid-April onwards. Therefore, it is too early to say about the prospects of cotton sowing in the coming season. So far the cotton sowing has not been delayed.

(e) to (g) The cotton (Kapas) is sold by farmers in market yards, and the same is procured by traders, State Marketing Federations, Cotton Corporation of India and Textiles Mills. No problems are reportedly being faced by the farmers in the sale of cotton. In fact, the purchases by the Cotton Corporation of India have been higher this year compare to the previous year.